(b) On the basis of the monthly per capita quantities of consumption reported in the National Sample Survey 61st Round Report on "Household Consumption of Various Goods and Services in India, 2004-05" and the population projections given by the office of the Registrar General of India, the total quantum of foodgrains required by Bihar during 2006-07 is estimated at 17.33 million tonnes which includes seed, feed and wastage. Bihar's requirement of foodgrains in 2020-21 is estimated at 20.62 million tonnes.

Dairy development

†610. SHRI JAI PARKASH AGGARWAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is immense potential in dairy development in the country; and

(b) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. There is immense potential in dairy development in the country. The Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries implemented the following four dairy development schemes during the Tenth Five Year Plan:-

1. Intensive Dairy Development Programme.
2. Assistance to Cooperatives.
3. Strengthening Infrastructure for Quality and Clean Milk Production.
4. Dairy/Poultry Venture Capital Fund.

All the above dairy development schemes are being continued during 2007-08 and also proposed to be continued during rest of the Eleventh Plan period.

Purchase of wheat by FCI

†611. SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that production of wheat is over 74 crore tonnes this year;

(b) what was the target fixed for wheat purchase by the Food Corporation of India this year;

(c) whether that target has been achieved;

(d) if so, the total quantity of wheat purchased by the Food Corporation of India; and

(e) if not, the reasons for less purchase of wheat?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA): (a) As per the 4th advance estimates released on 19.07.2007, production of wheat during 2006-07 is around 7.49 crore tonnes.

(b) to (e) The Food Corporation of India (FCI) aimed at procuring 1.52 crore tonnes of wheat during the Rabi marketing season 2007-08. As on 06.08.2007, 1.11 crore tonnes of wheat had been procured in the country. The procurement was less than the estimates due to low market arrivals and high private participation in procurement.

Production of paddy, pulses, etc.

†612. SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:
SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to increase the production of paddy as well as pulses and oil seeds in the country;

(b) whether Government are aware of the fact that there is an acute shortage of authentic seeds with State Seeds Development Corporation in the State of Chhattisgarh, as a result thereof SSDC is not in a position to provide authentic seeds, particularly paddy, Maize, Kodo, Kutaki, Arhar, Soyabean, groundnut, horse-bean and green-lentil in Rajnandgaon, Durg, Kwardha, Korba, Janjgeer, Jashpur, Sarguja, Bastar, Kanker and Koria Districts; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Central Government to provide required quantity of authentic seeds to State Seeds Development Corporation and the details of the seeds which have been provided together with the quantity thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Chhattisgarh Rajya Beej Evam Krishi Vikash Nigam Ltd. has provided in Kharif 2007 season, 102937.63 quintals of seeds to the farmers against the demand of the State *i.e.* 146515 quintals seeds of all crops. The demand in the State for paddy, which is the main Kharif crop, was 98000 quintals and Chhattisgarh Rajya Beej Evam Krishi Vikash Nigam Ltd. has provided 80136 quintals of paddy seeds. The details of demand for and supply of seeds of other crops in the district is enclosed as Statement-I (*See* below). The production and distribution of seeds to the farmer is primarily the responsibility of the State Government through their State Seeds Corporation and State Department of Agriculture Farms. The Government of India complements the efforts of the State Government through National Seeds Corporation and State Farms Corporation of India. The State has been advised to have tie up arrangements with National Seed Corporation, State Farms Corporation of India and other State Seed Corporations one year in advance to ensure availability of required seeds. The details of the seeds supplied by other Seeds Corporation to Chhattisgarh State based on *ad-hoc* indent is enclosed as Statement-II.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.